

**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC  
P.O. Box 19928  
Alexandria, Virginia 22320  
Telephone: (703) 836-6400  
Facsimile: (703) 836-2787

Attorney Docket No.: 032372.01

Date: August 27, 2001

j1040 U.S. PTO  
109866/60  
09/038601

Customer Number: 25944

**BOX PATENT APPLICATION**

**CONTINUING APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL  
RULE 1.53(b)**

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b) is a

☒ Continuation      ☐ Divisional      ☐ Continuation-in-Part

application of prior pending Application No. 08/972,742, filed November 18, 1997.

For (Title): INFORMATION PROCESSING APPARATUS

By (Inventors): Satoshi EJIMA and Akihiko HAMAMURA

1. ☒ A Declaration and Power of Attorney is attached. The attached Declaration and Power of Attorney is:
  - ☒ a. A copy of the Declaration and Power of Attorney from the parent application. (Used with the same or fewer inventors and (a) a copy of the prior application or (b) a revised, reformatted or edited version of the prior application that does not contain new matter.)
  - ☐ b. A new Declaration and Power of Attorney. (Used with the same, fewer or additional inventors and (a) a copy of the prior application, (b) a revised, reformatted or edited version of the prior application that does not contain new matter, or (c) a new specification.)
2. ☒ The filing fee is calculated below:

**CLAIMS IN THE APPLICATION AFTER ENTRY OF  
ANY PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT NOTED BELOW**

FOR:	NO. FILED	NO. EXTRA
BASIC FEE		
TOTAL CLAIMS	32 - 20	= *12
INDEP CLAIMS	13 - 3	= *10
<input type="checkbox"/> MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS PRESENTED		

\* If the difference is less than zero, enter "0".

**SMALL ENTITY**

RATE	FEE
	\$ 355
x 9 =	\$
x 40 =	\$
+135 =	\$
TOTAL	\$

OR  
OR  
OR  
OR  
OR  
OR

**OTHER THAN A  
SMALL ENTITY**

RATE	FEE
	\$ 710
x 18	\$ 216
x 80	\$ 800
+270	\$ 0
TOTAL	\$1726

3. ☒ Check No. 122134 in the amount of \$1726.00 to cover the filing fee is attached. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any other fees that may be required to complete this filing, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 15-0461. Two duplicate copies of this sheet are attached.
4. ☐ Cancel claims \_\_\_\_\_ of the application before calculating the filing fee. At least one independent claim is retained for filing purposes.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE  
AUTHORIZATION  
Please grant any extension  
necessary for entry;  
Charge any fee due to our  
Deposit Account No. 15-0461

5. ☒ Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:  
--This is a ☒ Continuation ☐ Division ☐ Continuation-in-Part of Application No. 08/972,742 filed November 18, 1997. The entire disclosure of the prior application(s) is hereby incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.--
6. ☒ Drawings (Fig(s). 1-14) are attached.  
☐ Use Figure \_\_\_\_\_ for front page of Publication.
7. ☒ Priority of foreign application(s) No. 8-326545 filed December 6, 1996 in Japan and No. 9-096906 filed April 15, 1997 in Japan are claimed under 35 U.S.C. §119 and/or §365(b).  
☒ The certified copies were filed in prior Application No. 08/972,742 on January 27, 1998.  
☐ A certified copy of the above foreign application(s) is filed herewith.
8. ☒ Priority of U.S. Provisional Application(s) No. 60/033,698 filed December 20, 1996 is claimed under 35 U.S.C. §119.  
☒ Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:  
--This nonprovisional application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application(s) No. 60/033,698 filed December 20, 1996.--
9. ☒ The prior application is assigned of record to Nikon Corporation recorded at Reel 8834, Frame 0589.
10. ☐ This application is filed by fewer than all the inventors named in the prior application (37 C.F.R. §1.53(b)(1)). Delete the following inventor(s) named in the prior application:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. ☐ A Preliminary Amendment is attached. Claims added by this Amendment are properly numbered consecutively beginning with the number next following the highest numbered claim in the application.
12. ☒ An Information Disclosure Statement is attached.
13. ☐ Small entity status:  
☐ a. Entitlement to small entity status is asserted.  
☐ b. Small entity status is no longer claimed.
14. ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
15. ☐ This application is NOT to be published under 35 U.S.C. 112(b). The undersigned attorney or agent hereby certifies that the invention disclosed in this application has not been and will not be the subject of an application filed in another country, or under a multilateral international agreement, that requires publication at eighteen months after filing.
16. ☒ The power of attorney in the application is to James A. Oliff, Registration No. 27,075, William P. Berridge, Registration No. 30,024, Kirk M. Hudson, Registration No. 27,562, Thomas J. Pardini, Registration No. 30,411, Edward P. Walker, Registration No. 31,450, Robert A. Miller, Registration No. 32,771, Mario A. Costantino, Registration No. 33,565, Stephen J. Roe, Registration No. 34,463, Joel S. Armstrong, Registration No. 36,430, Christopher W. Brown, Registration No. 38,025, and/or Richard E. Rice, Registration No. 31,560.  
☐ a. The power appears in the attached Declaration and Power of Attorney.  
☐ b. Since the power does not appear in the attached Declaration and Power of Attorney, a substitute Power of Attorney is also attached.
17. ☒ Address all future communications to:

**OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC**  
**P.O. Box 19928**  
**Alexandria, Virginia 22320**

Respectfully submitted,

  
James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,075

Eric D. Morehouse  
Registration No. 38,565